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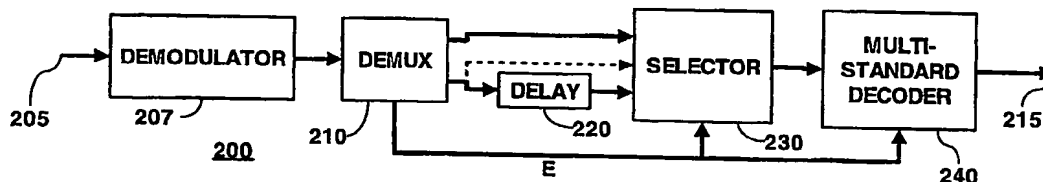
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(54) Title: **ROBUST MODE STAGGERCASTING USER CONTROLLED SWITCHING MODES**



Receiver

(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for staggercasting includes encoding a set of signals representing content (fig. 1-2). The set of encoded signals (115) is capable of being decoded to produce a corresponding set of decoded signals (output of 210), each having a quality which is different from the qualities of the decoded signals corresponding to the other encoded signals. A composite signal (115 or 205) is generated which includes the set of encoded signals, staggered in time. The set of encoded signals extracting from the composite signal. Errors in the set of extracted encoded signals are detected (E) to produce a subset of available extracted encoded signals which are not erroneous. A content representative signal (215) at a selectable desired quality is then decoded.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/02275

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : H04N 7/12

US CL : 375/240.25, 240.27; 725/101

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 375/240.25, 240.26, 240.27, 240.28; 725/86-87, 90, 101; 348/385.1, 388.1; 370/508

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
IEEEExplore, Science Direct

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EAST

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6,144,400 A (EBISAWA) 07 November 2000, entire document.	1-27
A, E	US 6,701,528 B1 (ARSENAULT ET AL) 02 March 2004, entire document.	1-27
A, E	US 6,711,657 B1 (ELSTERMANN) 03 August 2004, entire document.	1-27

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